

ADVERTISE!

The Best Medium for
Advertising
in the Colony is
THE 'CHINA MAIL.'
THE POPULAR and LEADING PAPER.

The China Mail.

ESTABLISHED 1845.

PRINTING

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION
Promptly, Neatly, &
Cheaply Executed
AT THE
'China Mail Office,'
5 WYNDHAM STREET.

No. 11,585.

號七廿月四年百九千一英

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 1900.

日八廿月三年子庚

PRICE, \$2.50 Per Month.

Business Notices.

W. S. BAILEY & CO., FOR THE SUMMER

17, PRAYA CENTRAL.

Engineers and General Merchants

Sole Agents for CARTER'S DISINTEGRATORS FOR

GRINDING BARK, BEAN CAKE, SANDALWOOD, CORN,
Etc., Etc., Etc.

AMERICAN DRILLING MACHINES FOR HAND OR POWER.
DUPLEX AND DIRECT ACTING PUMPS FOR EVERY SERVICE.

SHIPS TELEGRAPHS, SPECIAL SIZES FOR
LAUNCHES.

CHAMPION FORGES, LUBRICATORS.

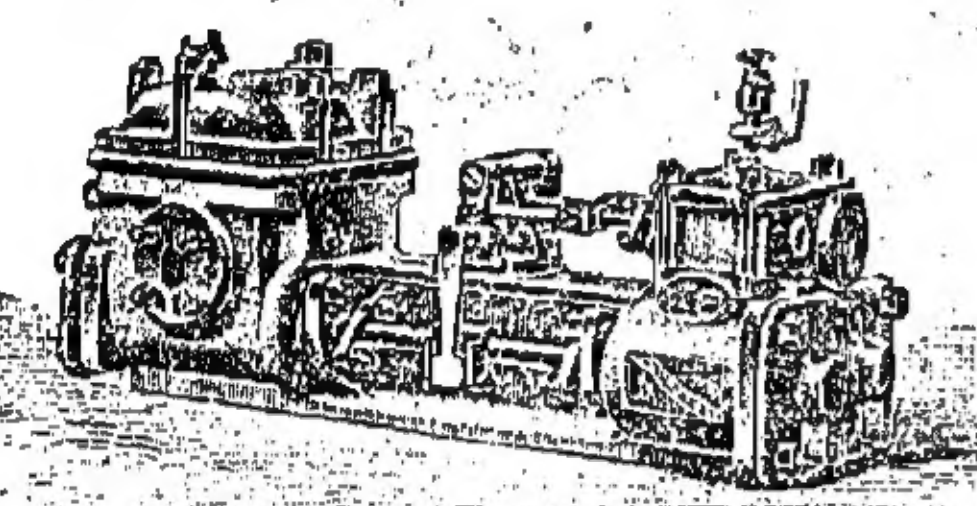
INJECTORS, EJECTORS.

ENGINE OILS & SOLIDIFIED LUBRICANT.

ENGINE AND BOILER MOUNTINGS.

ASBESTOS AND PUMP PACKINGS.

GENERAL STORES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.



THE Peak Hotel.

CITY OFFICE,
7, DUDDELL STREET.

HOTEL CRAIGIEBURN

CENTRALLY Situated at PLUNKET'S
GATE, THE PEAK. 1500 feet
above Sea Level and 500 yards from Tram
terminus. For Terms, &c.,
Apply to the MANAGER.
Telephone No. 55.

KWONG SANG YUEN & CO.,
MAKERS OF
MANILA CIGARS.

ONLY the best Leaves, selected by our
special Representative in the Philip-
pines, are used in the Manufacture of these
Cigars.
Samples and Prices sent free on Appli-
cation. Inspection cordially invited.
Factory: No. 12, Union Street North,
Yau-ma-tei, Hongkong.

SANITARY BOARD

THE Attention of Owners of HOUSE
PROPERTY in the Colony is directed
to the requirements of Section 7 of Ordinance
No. 31 of 1899, with regard to the
backyard for every existing Domestic
Building, and to the fact that these back-
yards must be provided before the first day
of June, 1900.
By Order,
G. A. WOODCOCK,
Acting Secretary, Sanitary Board.
Sanitary Board Office,
Hongkong, April 19, 1900.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING
of the MEMBERS will be held on
MONDAY, the 30th April, at 2.45 p.m.,
at the Chamber Rooms, City Hall, to
consider the Report of the Committee on
the proposed alteration of the
place of the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD,
in the Legislative Council, during his
absence from the Colony.
By Order,
R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.
Hongkong, April 23, 1900.

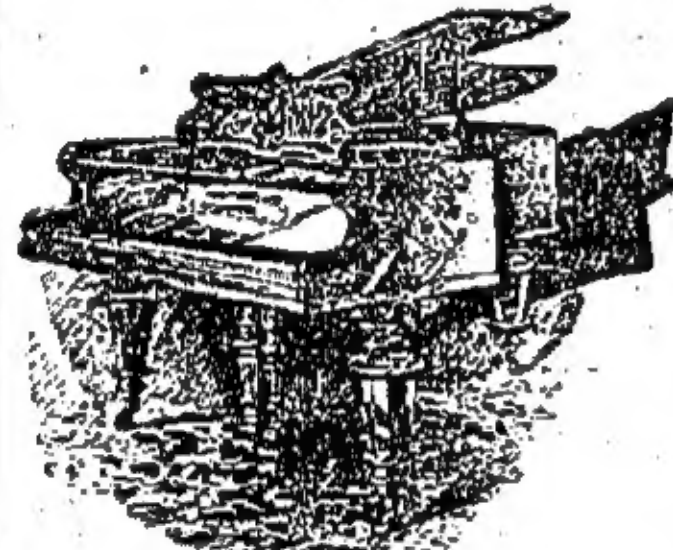
THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the MEMBERS of the Hongkong
General Chamber of Commerce will be held
on the same Day, and immediately thereafter,
for the purpose of receiving the Report of
the Committee and passing the Secretary's
Accounts for the year ended 31st December,
1899.
By Order,
R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.
Hongkong, April 23, 1900.

WANTED.
A Few STEADY BOARDERS (Gen-
tlemen). Central Position on low
level; good accommodation, with one of
Billiard Table and select Library.
Apply to 'R. K. N.'
Care of 'China Mail' Office.
Hongkong, April 24, 1900.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.
AN INTERIM BONUS OF TWENTY PER
CENT upon CONTRIBUTIONS for
the year 1899, has been declared.
WARRANTS will be issued on the 1st
May.
By Order of the Board,
W. J. SAUNDERS,
Secretary.
Hongkong, April 19, 1900.

Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.



GRANDS OF HIGHEST CLASS,
BECHSTEIN, FLEYEL,
COLLARD, RACHALS.
HIRE AND TIME PAYMENT ACCEPTED.
MAGNIFICENT LOT NEW HAAKE PIANOS,
10 JUST ARRIVED.

NOTICE.
DELEN'S ASBESTOS EASTERN
AGENCY, LIMITED, will be under
the management of Messrs DRADLEY &
Co., on and after 1st May.
Hongkong, April 19, 1900.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.
SHARES in this Company in which a
CALL of \$1 was made PAYABLE on
the 3rd day of March, 1900, and which
said Call has not yet been paid, are liable
to be forfeited in accordance with the
Articles of Association of the Company.
Interest at the rate of 10 per cent. p.a.
will be charged on all overdue calls.
W. H. GASKELL,
Secretary.
Hongkong, April 18, 1900.

THE CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN & MORTGAGE CO., LTD.

NOTICE is hereby given that the
SECOND INSTALLMENT of 35
per SHARE in respect of the 100,000 NEW
SHARES has been called up, and Holders
of such Shares who have not already paid
this Installment are requested to pay the
amount of such Call to the Undersigned at
the Office of the Company No. 9, Praya
Central on or before the 30th April, 1900.
Dated 27th March, 1900.
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.

THE TEAK CHURCH.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of WOR-
SHIPERS at the Teak Church
will be held in the Vestry of St. John's
Cathedral, on WEDNESDAY, May 2nd, at
4.30 p.m.
Business:—
To pass the Accounts and Report.
To elect a Committee.
R. F. COBOLD,
Hon. Secretary.
Hongkong, April 25, 1900.

THE CHEONG FAT FERRY COM- PANY, LIMITED.

APPLICATIONS for SHARES may be
made in to the NATIONAL BANK
OF CHINA, LIMITED, up to 30th April.
LAUTS, WEGENER & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, April 25, 1900.

THE DAIRY FARM COMPANY, LIMITED.

ROSEBUD AUSTRALIAN CREAM
BUTTER.
DAIRY FARM FRESH BUTTER.
Do. MILK.
Do. CREAM.
Orders promptly executed, and delivered
twice a day at customer's residence.
Hongkong, April 25, 1900.

DISS AND GILLINGS, TAILORS AND BREECHMAKERS.

DEG to Notify the Public that they have
commenced Business at the above
address, with a Well-Selected Stock of
TROPICAL TWEEDS, FLANNELS,
DRESS SUITINGS, WHITE and PINKY
VESTINGS, &c.
Every Attention given to THE STYLE,
and PUNCTUALITY. Combined with
MODERATE CHARGES.
A Trial Order respectfully solicited.
Hongkong, April 24, 1900.

'KIRIN.'

A Delicate
Lager.
THE CELEBRATED BEER OF
JAPAN.
QUARTS, \$2.00 per dozen.
PINTS, \$1.75 do.

W. HUTTON POTTS,
Sole Agent for Hongkong,
HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY,
LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that SCRIP
NUMBER 992 for Ten SHARES
of this Company, Numbered 1165 to 1174,
and dated the 20th May, 1899, in the name
of PUNG WA CHU, of Hongkong,
having been LOST, a New Scrip for the
same will be issued after One Month from
the date hereof, and the Original Scrip will
be considered by the Company as Null and
Void, and all Persons are hereby warned
against accepting or negotiating the same.
By Order,
C. MOONEY,
Secretary.
Hongkong, March 30, 1900.

THE GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that SCRIP
NUMBER 240 for 15 SHARES of
the Company, Numbered 28904 to 28918, in
the name of PAUL JORDAN, Esquire,
of Hongkong, has been LOST, a New
Scrip for the same will be issued after One
Month from the date hereof, and the
Original Scrip will be considered by the
Company as null and void, and all Persons
are hereby warned against accepting or
negotiating the same.
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, March 29, 1900.

HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EX-
TRAORDINARY GENERAL
MEETING of HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND
FINANCE COMPANY, LIMITED, will be held
at the Office of the Company, No. 38 and 40
Queen's Road Central, Victoria, Hongkong,
on MONDAY, the 30th April, 1900, at
Noon, for the purpose of considering, and
if thought fit, approving the Draft New
REGULATIONS, which will be submitted
to the Meeting, and in the event of the
approval thereof with or without modifica-
tions, to consider and if thought fit, to
pass a Resolution to the effect that the New
REGULATIONS, already approved by the
Meeting, and for the purpose of identifica-
tion, subscribed by the Chairman thereof,
be and the same be deemed approved, and
that such REGULATIONS be, and they are
hereby adopted, as the Regulations of the
Company, to the exclusion of all the exist-
ing Regulations thereof.
JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.
A Copy of the proposed Articles can now
be seen at the Company's Office.
Hongkong, April 24, 1900.

Business Notices.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

SOFT FRONTED COLORED SHIRTS,
very THIN and COOL.

Hosiery and Underwear,

Washing Ties,

White Buckskin Boots,

White Canvas Shoes.

THE PHARMACY,

10 Queen's Road Central, Hongkong.

ENGLISH and FOREIGN PATENT MEDICINES. Prescriptions carefully
dispensed by a qualified CHEMIST. Special attention to FRENCH and Other
FOREIGN FORMULAE.

SOMERVILLE'S 'EXPORT' AND 'GLENDOUR' WHISKIES.
PORTSOY HIGHLAND WHISKY (PURE MALT).
MANILA CIGARS.

Manager, RICHARD FLINT.

G. H. MUMM & CO.'S EXTRA DRY CHAMPAGNE,

Agents: SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
For Hongkong, Shanghai and Japan.

ASK FOR FERGUSON'S P. & O.

SPECIAL LIQUEUR, 10 YEARS OLD
HIGHLAND WHISKY.

FERGUSON'S
SPECIAL CREAM
BREADALBANE HIGHLAND WHISKY.

These are the finest productions of Scotland;
devoid absolutely of all deleterious matter.

THE CREME DE LA CREME OF
WHISKIES.
PURE AND MILD.

Sole Importers,
F. BLACKHEAD & Co.

MANILA CIGARS,

ALWAYS ON HAND THE BEST MARKS FROM
'LA INSULAR' AND 'LA FERIA DE ORIENTE' FACTORIES.

J. M. DE ZUNIGA,
Entrusted by the House of Representatives, (New Victoria Hotel).

THE LARGEST MANUFACTORY OF HIGH-CLASS EGYPTIAN CIGARETTES in the British Colonies.

LIVIERATO & CO., ADEN, Arabia.

Their Cigarettes are guaranteed fresh, pure and
fragrant.
The best and cheapest Egyptian Cigarettes in
the world.
Any order can be forwarded by parcel post to
every part of the world.
Numerous testimonials for their sweet-smoke
Cigarettes.

BEWARE OF IMITATION!
LIVIERATO & Co.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that SCRIP
NUMBER 812 for 8 SHARES of
the Company, Numbered 13143 to 13150, in
the name of WILLIAM MONARCH
BUNNIE ARTHUR, Esquire, of Hong-
kong, having been LOST, a New Scrip for
the same will be issued after One Month
from the date hereof, and the Original Scrip
will be considered by the Company as null
and void, and all persons are hereby
warned against accepting or negotiating
the same.
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, April 10, 1900.

Business Notices.

WATKINS' CROWN SODA,

Guaranteed to be Manufactured from Filtered Water,
and to contain only the Purest Bicarbonate of Soda
in Solution.

Watkins Limited,
ABRATED WATER MANUFACTURERS.

CROWN SODA WATER. SELTZER WATER.
LEMONADE. BELFAST GINGER ALE.
SARSAPARILLA. Etc., Etc.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

Portland Cement.

\$4.50 per Cask of 375 lb. net ex Factory.
\$2.80 per Bag of 250 lb. net ex Factory.

Factories—HONGKONG AND MACAO.

Glazed Stoneware, Drain Pipes and Fittings, Glazed
Paving Bricks and Tiles, Fire Bricks and Fire Clay.

FIRE CLAY WORKS—DEEP WATER BAY, HONGKONG.

For further particulars, apply to
Shewan, Tomes & Co.,
GENERAL AGENTS.

ORGANS - - -

A New consignment of American and
Japanese ORGANS.
PRICES: \$30 to \$400,
MONTHLY PAYMENT ACCEPTED.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.,
MUSICAL DEPARTMENT.

FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS HONGKONG HOTEL.

NEWLY FURNISHED ROOMS on FIRST FLOOR, OLD BUILDING.
EVERY COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE PROVIDED FOR GUESTS.

Sure Cure for Indigestion.

Johnson's
DIGESTIVE TABLETS.

VICTORIA DISPENSARY,
QUEEN'S ROAD.

COTTAM & Co.,

FOR THE APPROACHING SUMMER, JUST ARRIVED
A NEW STOCK OF
CELLULAR SHIRTS, PRINT SOFT-FRONTED SHIRTS,
AND
WASHING TIES, Etc., Etc.

FOR THE SUMMER, SPARKLING DEVONSHIRE CIDER.

BREWED AT TONNES, DEVON,
By
MESSRS BENTALL, LLOYD & CO.
Sole Agents for Hongkong,
CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & Co.,

W. POWELL & Co.

DRESSES! DRESSES!! DRESSES!!!
EX S. S. 'SANUKI MARU'
A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF
LADIES' SUMMER DRESS MATERIALS,
FRENCH CAMBRICS AND MUSLINS, Etc.,
ALL COLOURS.

Hocks and Moselles.

LAUBENHEIMER
GRACHER
NIERSTEINER
LIEBFRÄUMLICH
CALIFORNIA RIESLING
Do. HOCK

	1 doz.	2 doz.
LAUBENHEIMER	\$11.00	\$22.00
GRACHER	12.00	24.00
NIERSTEINER	13.00	26.00
LIEBFRÄUMLICH	19.00	38.00
CALIFORNIA RIESLING	8.00	16.00
Do. HOCK	8.00	16.00

H. PRICE & Co.,
12, QUEEN'S ROAD.

Notes by the Way.

Preparations are being made in the States to celebrate Dewey Day on May 1.

H.M.S. *Redpole* left Shanghai on April 23 for Kukuang. She was to return to Shanghai in a fortnight's time.

On April 20, H.E. Sir Henry Blake, Lady Blake, Miss Blake, and Viscount Suidale left Shanghai for Hankow by the L.C.S. *Yuehoo*.

It is expected that Mr John Barrett, former U.S. Minister to Siam, will be appointed to the Commission to study the markets and industrial progress of the Orient, as the representative of the Pacific Coast.

Sergeants Ross, R.A., and Sergeant Moore, Royal Welch Fusiliers, who have been engaged for some time past as instructors to the Shanghai Volunteers, returned to Hongkong yesterday by the P. and O. steamer *Benaul*. The men were very popular during their stay at Shanghai.

Quarantine at Haiphong.

Messrs Johnson and Co. have received telegraphic advice from Haiphong that twelve days' quarantine has been established against ships arriving from Hongkong.

Macao Death Rate.

The deaths in Macao for the week ended April 12 numbered 63, including nine from plague. The deaths for the following week numbered 72, including 92 from plague.

State of Chinese Burying Grounds.

At the Sanitary Board meeting, yesterday, Mrs. Lawson, Hartigan and Clark and the two Chinese members consented to act as a committee to confer with the Acting Registrar General in connection with Chinese cemeteries.

Drainage.

Yesterday, at the fortnightly meeting of the Sanitary Board—Hon. R. D. Ormsby presiding—the report of the Drainage Sub-Committee relative to the proposed amendment of the Public Health Ordinance was submitted, and on the motion of Dr. Clark, seconded by Mr. McKie, it was decided that a bye-law recommended by the sub-committee should be forwarded to the Government for their approval.

Hospitals.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Netherdale Hospitals beg to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:

H. K. & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Limited	100
E. D. Sassoon & Co.	100
Ng Ho Shi	50
Gibb, Livingston & Co.	25
Benjamin, Kelly & Potts	25
Gilman & Co.	25
W. H. Locky & Co.	25
J. D. Humphreys & Son	25
Johsen & Co.	25
H. Skitt & Co.	25
Sperry Flour Co.	25
Y. H. Denny	25
H. L. Denny	25
Eastern Asiatic Trading Co.	25
Fung Ho Shi	20
W. Lyasaght & Son	20
Ed. Osborne	10
E. & Joseph	10
Yeung Sang	5

The Art Journal.

The *Art Journal* may be designated as the mirror which reflects the intellectual pleasures of the artistic world, and it is, therefore, a magazine of rare value to those far removed from art circles to whom the development of art is of intense interest. In the March number, Mr. Claude Phillips contributes a complete and interesting article on the Van Dyck Exhibition held at Burlington House. The work of Mr. William Nicholson, his becoming so well known and so popular that the article on the work of this young artist written by Mr. J. A. Reid should be of special interest. There are also numerous illustrations of his clever and unaccountable drawings. The second paper by Mr. James L. Gray on 'The Mortars of Dural', describes the fabric created by the well-known firm of Messrs. Alexander Morton and Co. Signor Pompeo Molmenti contributes an interesting article on 'Venice as it is, and as it was', in which he regrets that ideas which guide present-day life are expelling the traditions of the past and extinguishing the sense of intellectual pleasures. He maintains that 'Venice must assuredly not remain inactive while all around her is in advancement, but between the sacrilegious hands of everything new, and the exaggerated idea of those who would wish to defend the unequal for fear of the new, is there not room for moderate opinion? Hygiene does not require to abolish everything that is or resembles the antique, nor asks that the stamp of original Venice be wiped out to make her like other cities.'

Stearns' Headache Cure.

Is a reliable remedy scientifically compounded and approved by the Medical profession wherever it is known. Wholesale and Retail from A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., Hongkong.

WHEN TRAVELLING

WHETHER on pleasure bent or business, take on every trip a bottle of Stearns' Headache Cure. It acts most pleasantly and effectively on the kidneys, liver, and bowels, preventing fevers, headaches, and other ailments of travellers. For sale in 50 cent bottles by all leading druggists. Manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co., only. Sold by Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., Wholesale and Retail.

Entertainments.

Warren's Circus and the entertainment of the Ada Delroy Company were well patronised last night when changes of programmes were effected at both places of amusement. The White Mahatma questioned as to the date of the relief of Mafeking gave the 19th of May.

Chinese Minister to St. Petersburg.

According to a Peking dispatch the Empress Dowager has selected a Manchurian named Kwei Ch'ien, a sub-Chancellor of the Grand Secretariat, as Chinese Minister to St. Petersburg, to succeed H.E. Yang Ju (Chinese Bannerman) whose three years' term of office expired last March.

Bulls from his Contract.

The Sanitary Board met yesterday, when on the motion of Dr. Clark, seconded by Lieut. Col. Ryan, it was decided to recommend the Government to cancel the contract of Fong Shi, scavenging contractor of Aberdeen and Apileau, on the ground that he was not fulfilling the contract. It appears that the contractor has disappeared from the colony.

The Sui Ching Wan Robbery.

The three men arrested by Sergeant Looek in connection with the Sui Ching Wan robbery on the night of the 23rd were, at the Magistrate's, to-day, committed for trial at the next Sessions. As reported in our issue, yesterday, the men, along with other five, armed with revolvers, plundered a Chinese house of money and valuables to the extent of \$700.

The Violent Throwing Case.

Built of \$5,000 was fixed by Mr. Gompertz, at the Magistrate's to-day, on the 'key' of the Hongkong Hotel, who threw a bottle of some other corrosive liquid at his sweetheart, inflicting on her such injuries as to necessitate her going to hospital. Inspector Baker, West Point, who has the case in hand, stated that the crime was a most serious one, ranking as felony.

Hongkong Microbe Factory.

The correspondent who wrote complaining of the water tank on the Shaukiwan Road again addresses us in his cheerful epigram as follows: 'In your remarks to my letter of last night, I beg to inform you that the European firms only supply a very small percentage of the water used by ships in the harbour. This stream is able to supply from four to six water boats in the twenty-four hours. Where does the water go? If the steamers do not use it, the boat people must do so. Have compassion for the poor ignorant Chinaman, but not for the poor blind Sanitary Board and its D.C. 20.'

The Eyecore at the Cricket Ground.

Yesterday, at the fortnightly meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board, a letter was submitted from the Acting Colonial Secretary to the effect that he was directed to say that there were at present no funds available for the removal of the urinal at the west side of the Cricket Ground, but that it was contemplated to remove it when the Government works in the immediate vicinity were being carried out. Mr. Osborne said that, considering that the expense was quite paltry, he did not think the Government were justified in putting that forward as an excuse for refusing the Sanitary Board's request. Dr. Hartigan considered that the Sanitary Board had a decided snub in this matter. He proposed that the Government be asked to reconsider their attitude with regard to this matter. Mr. McKie seconded, and the motion was carried, five voting for it and five abstaining from voting.

Working on an Old License.

At the Magistrate's to-day, before Mr. Hallifax, a Chinaman was charged with being in possession of a case containing 56 revolvers without having the necessary license. The revolvers were being removed from Messrs Netherdale and Oyle's to the 'Tak Loong arms' shop, Queen's Road. The prisoner was represented by Mr. Reese. It appeared that defendant had in his possession a license under the old Ordinance of 1895. Under the old Ordinance it was ruled by Mr. Smeeth Smith that, in virtue of having a license, a dealer could remove arms from one place to another in the Colony without first of all obtaining a permit. Under the new Ordinance, however, it is different, and before arms can be moved from one place to another a permit has to be obtained from the Superintendent of Police. Mr. Reese contended that, under the Interpretation Ordinance 1897, it was laid down that a man by virtue of his old license is entitled to the rights and privileges so granted by virtue of any law, although repealed, as long as he holds the license. He held, therefore, that he was entitled to exercise the rights and privileges as before. The Magistrate took a similar view of the case and discharged the accused.

Proper food, rest, life in the open air, and bath in conjunction with

Stearns' Wine of Cod Liver Oil will aid the consumptive in early recovery. Sold by all Chemists, Wholesale and Retail from A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., Hongkong.

What makes your nose so red, Robinson? 'Robinson' glared with pride at not picking itself but other people's noses.

Robbers Committed.

At the Magistrate's to-day, the six robbers, who made an armed raid on a house at Coffee Plantation, near the Cotton Mill, on 6th April, and carried away a quantity of clothing and jewellery belonging to the Chinese occupants, were committed to the Sessions for trial.

The Philippines Cable.

A Washington dispatch states that on March 30, in the House of Representatives, the bill to remunerate the British Cable Company for expenses incurred in repairing the Manila cable cut by Admiral Dewey, which was under consideration several weeks ago, was committed to oblivion.

Share List.

The following alterations in our share list are noted after the hour of correction: National Bank, 82½; China Trade, 54½; sellers; North China, 114, 165; ex div.; Union, 82½; buyers; Yangtze, 112½; ex div.; Hongkong Fire, 92½; Doek, 405 ½; prom.—743.75; sellers; Steamship, 8307; sellers; Star, 181; buyers; China Sugar, 112½; sellers; Wharf, 56½; buyers; Hongkong Land, 112½; sellers; Hongkong, 1107; buyers; West Point, 847; Jolein, 112½; buyers; Great Eastern, 50 cents; buyers; Raab, 850; sellers; Oliver, A 85; sellers; and B 84.25; sellers; Hongkong Hotel, 1118; sellers; Hongkong Electric, 1114; buyers; United Asbestos, 37; buyers; and China Borneo, 119; buyers.

Must Have Back Yards.

At the Sanitary Board meeting yesterday—Hon. R. D. Ormsby presiding—an application was submitted from Messrs Leigh and Orange, architects, relative to backyards, on behalf of the Land Investment and Agency Company. Permission was asked to erect certain houses without back-yards, it being stated that all the houses would be surrounded by wide streets, and the houses without back-yards were far better lighted and ventilated than the middle houses having back-yards. It was pointed out that the law gave the Board no option in the matter, and on the motion of Dr. Clark, seconded by Lieut. Col. Ryan, it was decided that a reply to this effect be returned.

The Siamese Princess.

Their Highnesses the Princess Sirdioja and Skolwanakorn, accompanied by Nai Giansai, Messrs A. C. Carter and B. James, returned this morning from their trip to Canton and Macao. We gather that they were highly interested in everything they saw, and that, at Canton, they were accorded an interview with H.E. Viscount Li Hung Chang. His Excellency received them very kindly, and in the course of a lengthy cross-examination, showed, by the tenor of his questions, that he possessed a firm grasp of the Siamese situation. Finally he expressed high approval of the progress which Shan is making. Personally we hope that the young Princess have carefully contrasted ancient Canton with civilized Hongkong—the operation could not fail to be of high educational value to them.

The Spread of Plague.

At the fortnightly meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board, yesterday—Hon. R. D. Ormsby, presiding—Dr. Clark said that during the past fortnight 3,077 rats had been destroyed, making a total of 10,778. He regretted to report that there was no abatement in the spread of plague, and as at the previous meeting it was decided to declare No. 3 health district infected with plague he now proposed that No. 1 health district be declared. At the previous meeting a sub-committee, consisting of Dr. Lawson and himself, was appointed to make arrangements with regard to house visitation in No. 2 district. They asked for six constables, and these constables commenced work on the 23rd inst. They had discovered seven cases of plague during the past week, and he proposed that if the Board declared No. 1 health district infected the same constables visit No. 1 district as well as No. 2. Dr. Lawson seconded, and the motion was carried.

Missionary Rights and Privileges.

When Sir Claude Macdonald last visited Shanghai, Rev. Dr. William Muirhead addressed him on the question of claiming for those Protestant missionaries in China, who are British subjects, privileges similar to those recently granted, by an Imperial Edict, to members of the Roman Catholic hierarchy in that country. Correspondence between the British Minister and Mr. Muirhead is published in the Shanghai papers, from which it appears that despatches on the subject were submitted to Lord Salisbury, and a despatch from the Foreign Office intimates that the despatches were referred to the Archbishop of Canterbury for his Grace's observations. The despatches enclosed 'His Grace approves the conclusion arrived at in regard to this question by the Anglican Bishops in China,' as stated in the resolution enclosed in Mr. Muirhead's despatch No. 227, and considers that both as a matter of principle and of policy it is undesirable that Protestant missionaries in China should claim the privileges referred to. His Majesty's Government colour in the opinion expressed by the Archbishop and you should take no further action, with a view to obtaining for British Protestant missionaries in China the privileges conferred on the Roman Catholic clergy by the Imperial Edict.

TO-DAY'S TELEGRAMS.

CHINA MAIL'S SPECIAL SERVICE.

DEATH OF SIR NICHOLAS J. HANNEN.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Shanghai, April 26, 2.40 p.m.

Sir Nicholas J. Hannen, H.B.M.'s Chief Judge and Consul-General at Shanghai, died at 8 p.m., from collapse supervening an attack of influenza.

[Sir N. J. Hannen has been Chief Justice of the Supreme Court for China and Japan since 1891. He was born in 1842, was educated at University College, London, of which he is a B.A. In 1866 he was called to the bar, from 1871 to 1874 he was Acting Deputy Judge at Yokohama, in 1878 was appointed Crown Advocate at Shanghai and in 1891 obtained the appointment to hold at the time of his demise.—Ed., C.M.]

FRENCH MISSION DESTROYED.

MISSIONARY WOUNDED.

A French Mission near Ningpo has been destroyed by rioters, and one missionary was wounded.

REUTERS SERVICE.

LONDON, 25th April.

THE WAR—WEPENER.

Reuters' correspondent at Moscow, 24th inst., says that under the covering fire of four guns the Boers made a determined attack on Colonel Dalziel this morning. They were repulsed. They afterwards maintained several hours' fusillade at long range. Later news states that the Boers, who retreated before General Buller yesterday, advanced several miles during the night and occupied a good position at Stems Farm. General Buller is awaiting General Buller's brigade which is some miles behind.

LATER.

OPERATIONS IN THE FREE STATE.

General Chermidale has occupied Dewetsdorp without opposition. General Pollock's division has reached Roodesdorp. There is not likely to be any more trouble round Wepener now that Dewetsdorp is occupied.

LATER.

Plague and overcrowding in Hongkong.

The question of overcrowding among the poorer classes and its connection with plague has been discussed at several recent meetings of the Sanitary Board. A further discussion on the matter took place at yesterday's meeting.

LATER.

THE HON. R. D. ORMSBY PRESIDING, and there were also present Lieut. Col. Ryan, Mr. E. Osborne, Dr. Clark, Dr. Hartigan, Mr. J. McKie, Dr. Lawson, Mr. J. F. Bideley, Mr. Fung Wah Chuen, Mr. Chan A. Fook, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

RESULT OF THE CITY SUBURBAN.

1. Grafter.
2. Innocence.
3. Gobbler.

LATER.

WEPENER RELIEVED.

The Boers have retired from Wepener and fled to the northward along the Ladybrand Road.

Pleasantry at the Peak.

At the Magistrate's to-day, Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz presiding, the pleasant (?) relations existing between two gentlemen residing at the Peak and their coolies were laid bare to the public. Mr. J. L. W. Bell, who resides at Dunford, was charged with assaulting two chair coolies in the employ of Mr. H. W. Robertson, who resides at The Chahat, adjoining Mr. Bell's place. Mr. O. D. Thomson appeared for Mr. Bell, and Mr. H. J. Gedge on behalf of the chair coolies. The evidence of the coolies was to the effect that, on the morning of the 29th, they had taken Mr. Robertson to the tram station. On returning, they met the defendant. He struck them on the head with his stick. They did not know what this was for. They did not get in defendant's way or annoy him. Mr. Robertson also gave evidence. He said that, when seated in the train, he heard that his coolies were in a row with a Sikh policeman. They complained that the defendant had assaulted them. Defendant, as an excuse, said the coolies had been very cheeky of late and had tampered with his letter box. He threatened that if they came into his compound again he would break every bone in their bodies. Witness told him not to lose his temper and defendant said that if he (Mr. Robertson) did not take care he would go for him next. Constable Smith gave evidence as to the injuries of the coolies. A cross-examination was then heard, in which Mr. Bell charged the coolies with disorderly conduct on the morning of the 24th April. Mrs. Bell deposed that she had been very much troubled by Mr. Robertson's coolies during the last few months. On the morning of the 24th, the number one coolie came into her kitchen and said something in English about a cat. He did not address her respectfully, but abused her. She gave him the cat, which was in her dining room. He came later on and behaved disrespectfully to her. She told Bell on the evidence and fined him \$10 in respect of the assault upon one of the coolies, with \$10 compensation, and \$5 fine with \$5 compensation in respect of the other coolie. The cross-examination was dismissed.

FOOD SUPPLY AND ITS COST.

To the Editor of the 'China Mail.'

Sir—The local Inspector of Weights and Measures might reap unlimited official notice, along with much pleasant thanks, if he would see that comparative prices of weight in such articles as have to be sold in small earthen bowls or in paper—lard, flour, etc. Speaking from long experience, I can say that these articles are rarely up to weight, even with bowl or paper thrown in; and quite recently, in the case of the great Lipton Company at Home, it has been found that the commodity sold must be full weight, quite apart from whatever it is contained in or wrapped up in. Chinese dealers are notoriously past masters in the gentle art of adulteration, and can give points and a beating to any one in tricks of short weight.

It may not be commonly known, although no less a fact, that the most recent rise for a general increase of market prices was caused by the Government having issued the usual notice on the last of the month that the usual law—owing to circumstances beyond their control, they were unwillingly compelled to charge higher prices for certain classes of goods, from the 1st prox. Many people, objecting to the rise in the price of their market goods, and the old prices were allowed to remain. Why? The Committee of Inquiry had been formed, and the will seller got alarmed. The Committee are now sitting in the morning, and the action of the Committee and in nothing tangible, prices will at once go up, and continue to do so at regular intervals. No section of the community is more utterly marvellous, more gradually selfish than these market traders, who are the cause of the Chinese is to the effect that a shopkeeper cannot become a village elder; he must be a village elder, a sufficiently clear indication of the estimation in which this class is held. It is at the hotels and big butcher messes that the storm and stress of all this, but the paterfamilias with a small salary, as a matter of fact, hotels and messes are supplied at specially low rates.

In the course of its enquiries, the Committee should get to know that *Wepener* is concerned in the *compradors* cabins that is steadily driving prices up; they would be somewhat astonished. Some people, white as well as yellow, are perfectly unscrupulous, provided they can line their every dirty pocket.

Mr. Ladd, the worthy C.V.S., should be encouraged in his laudable efforts to get greater market accommodation. Rack renting in the public markets, if not already illegal, should be made so; it could easily be done.

Apologizing for the length of this letter.

Truly Yours,

April 27th, 1900.

SMITH.

PLAGUE AND OVERCROWDING IN HONGKONG.

QUESTION DISCUSSED BY THE SANITARY BOARD.

The question of overcrowding among the poorer classes and its connection with plague has been discussed at several recent meetings of the Sanitary Board. A further discussion on the matter took place at yesterday's meeting.

LATER.

THE HON. R. D. ORMSBY PRESIDING, and there were also present Lieut. Col. Ryan, Mr. E. Osborne, Dr. Clark, Dr. Hartigan, Mr. J. McKie, Dr. Lawson, Mr. J. F. Bideley, Mr. Fung Wah Chuen, Mr. Chan A. Fook, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

Ordinance of 1894, amongst many other provisions, decrees that every person in this colony shall be allotted in his dwelling a minimum surface area of 30 square feet and a minimum breathing space of 400 cubic feet so that a cubicle containing 6 feet long by 5 feet wide and 13 ft. 6 in. high will legally accommodate one human being. The law-makers who decided this limit must have been of extraordinary ideas on the subject of sanitation, and as a warning of the danger of what an enormous number of human beings, crowded together in a small space, would do to the health of the community, I think that it is reasonable to suppose that people condemned through poverty to live in fetid dens surrounded by a polluted atmosphere can hardly be expected to be successful in their efforts to keep their dwellings clean and healthy. It is a pity that the law is so long in coming to the aid of the poor, and that the Sanitary Board has not had available means to enforce it, but this is now partially remedied by the Government having sanctioned the appointment of additional inspectors. We are therefore in a position to commence an attack upon overcrowded tenements, and I think that if the matter be taken up intelligently and vigorously we may in the next few years bring about some improvement. The enforcement of the law will probably give annoyance to Chinese and European alike, but it is a man as being worthy of our making another attempt to attain. If there be one thing which more than others should be the first to abolish its insensate area it is the City of Victoria, for in this City modern plague has not passed and not forth to claim the victims throughout the world, and we who have had brought home to us the evils resulting from the mistake of our predecessors, we who witness the horrors of this fatal disease, should lead the way of reform and thus in a measure atone for the terrible plague which now afflicts the City of Victoria, for in this City modern plague has not passed and not forth to claim the victims throughout the world, and we who have had brought home to us the evils resulting from the mistake of our predecessors, we who witness the horrors of this fatal disease, should lead the way of reform and thus in a measure atone for the terrible plague which now afflicts the City of Victoria, for in this City modern plague has not passed and not forth to claim the victims throughout the world, and we who have had brought 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